

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 TRSE-00 EB-11 L-03 IGA-02 FS-01

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R 230119Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - P A R A 2 L I N E 1 1

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAID, C

SUBJECT:MOV NEGOTIATION: OFFICIAL TRAVEL ISSUE

REF: COLOMBO 1693

1. WE ENDORSE LINE YOU TOOK PARA 2 REFTEL ON TRAVEL
PURCHASE ISSUE. NEVERTHELESS EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING IS
CORRECT THAT MOV AND TRAVEL PROBLEMS ARE SEPARATE ISSUES.
THEREFORE BOTH IN TERMS HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF DISPUTE
AND FOR PRACTICAL PURPOSES IN WINDING UP MOV NEGOTIATIONS
QUICKLY WE AGREE ISSUES MAY BE DELINKED. IN DELINKING
TWO ISSUES, HOWEVER, EMBASSY SHOULD RESERVE USG POSITION
ON LEGITIMACY OF CEYLONENE CLAIM FOR TRAVEL ARREARAGES.

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2. WE PROPOSE YOU TAKE FOLLOWING LINE IN REPLYING TO
EOOREY: A. REITERATE POINTS MADE PARA TWO REFTEL AND
SAY USG ASSUMES GSL WILL APPLY SAME STAARDS ON TRAVEL
ISSUES THAT USG IS WILLING APPLY TO ICA RPT ICA MOV
ARREARAGES -- I.E. TO ALLOW THOSE TRAVEL PURCHASES MADE IN
PASS AT OFFICIAL RATE TO STAND. B. IF GSL OBJECTS TO THIS
POSITION, YOU SHOULD SAY THAT TRAVEL PURCHASE ISSUE HAS
BEEN COMPLETELY SEPARATE FROM MOV ISSUE AND IS NOT PART
OF CURRENT NEGOTIATION. WE CAN MAKE NO COMMENT ON GSL
CLAIM WITHOUT FULL RESEARCH WHICH MIGHT TAKE SEVERAL WEEKS
SINCE IT INVOLVES BOTH BUDGET AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR
USG. WE WILL MOVE QUICKLY TO DISCUSS THIS CLAIM WHENEVER

GSL WISHES BUT AS TOTALLY SEPARATE ISSUE FROM CURRENT MOV
NEGOTIATION AND SETTLEMENT.

3. WE ARE HEARTENED BY IMPRESSION REPORTED COLOMBO 1666
THAT GSL MAY BE WILLING ACCEPT USG PROPOSAL ON MOV AND
COME TO EARLY SETTLEMENT. WE WILL BE REPLYING TO
COLOMBO 1667 AND 1692 AND PARAS 12, 13 OF COLOMBO 1666
BY SEPTTEL.

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